

From: [Debbie Tarry](#)
To: [Boni Biery](#); [City Council](#); [Mark Relph](#)
Cc: [Carolyn Wurdeman](#); [John Norris](#); [Robert Hartwig](#); [Cheryl Ooka](#)
Subject: RE: Proposed TruGreen Maintenance Contract
Date: Monday, June 09, 2014 8:15:22 AM

Boni –

Thank-you for your letter. I want to make sure that you are aware that the proposed contract with TruGreen will not allow them to use any non-natural herbicides – we are continuing the policy that we have had in place for the last couple of years. Our bid did provide for two alternates that asked for pricing if herbicides were allowed in certain instances, but the price differential was not significant and therefore staff has recommended not to use the alternates and award the contract with no use of herbicides. I hope that this information is helpful and clarifies any questions you may have had about the use of herbicides under the City’s contract.

Debbie Tarry
City Manager
City of Shoreline
17500 Midvale Ave N.
Shoreline, WA 98133

From: Boni Biery [mailto:birdsbeesfishtrees@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, June 09, 2014 12:53 AM
To: Debbie Tarry; City Council; Mark Relph
Subject: Proposed TruGreen Maintenance Contract

Please see attached

Boni Biery
903 N 188th St
Shoreline, WA 98133
June 9, 2014

City of Shoreline
City Council, City Manager and Public Works Director
17500 Midvale Ave N
Shoreline, WA 98155

Dear City Manager Tarry, Public Works Director and Council,

I noticed this week's staff report that the City expects to contract with TruGreen for Landscaping Services for the City Right of Way. I am very concerned about this. Until now the City has 1) proudly publicized its "Pesticide Free Parks"; 2) spent a great deal of tax payer money doing things to slow and improve the quality of stormwater runoff; is 3) a "Certified Wildlife Habitat Community" and 4) a "Tree City USA." All of these point to the fact that citizens want to have a healthy place to live and play.

What contractual assurances are there that TruGreen will refrain from applying pesticides (which include: herbicides, pesticides, fungicides, and/or rodenticides) to City of Shoreline land and waters?

Surely you are aware that TruGreen and Scotts Miracle-Gro are under the infamous Monsanto umbrella? But did you know that both Cornell Lab of Ornithology and Audubon sued them for knowingly selling poisoned wild bird seed just two years ago? You can read about here.

<http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/2012/September/12-enrd-1088.html>

<http://grist.org/list/scotts-miracle-gro-pleads-guilty-to-selling-poisoned-bird-seed/>

How can the Council possibly be considering doing business with any portion of this unethical behemoth? Who from the City staff will be monitoring their every move to protect us from profiting at the expense of our health if the contract is approved?

It is paramount to consider that pesticides once applied are with us for decades at best, and expensive, if not impossible to remove. Meanwhile, all users of the environment from pets who walk in the right of ways; to the salmon trying to spawn; the bees, birds and squirrels that will eat the nectar/berries/ seeds poisoned by water taken up from the soil; and the people who will be breathing the air nearby; will all be taking in the pesticides applied. Does the City Council and/or City staff want to be remembered as the ones who decided that a healthy environment was no longer of any import and tossed

citizen health and all of the tax payer funded investments in environmental quality out the window with a single, toxic contract?

I'd very much like to continue saying the City of Shoreline cares about the environment. I am certain there are local companies able to provide non-toxic maintenance services. Please consider contacting the Coalition of Organic Landscape professionals for possible contract candidates at <http://www.organiclandscapers.org/landscapers.html>

Before you vote on this contract proposal, please take the time seriously weigh the potential, long term consequences of contracting with Tru-Green and look for less toxic, human and wildlife affirming solution.

I will look for your written response.

Respectfully,
Boni Biery

Attachment - Beyond Pesticides Factsheet on Glyphosate (RoundUp) and link



BEYOND PESTICIDES

Protecting Health and the Environment with Science, Policy and Action

Gateway on Pesticide Hazards and Safe Pest Management Glyphosate

General Information

- Fact Sheet: [Glyphosate.pdf](#)
- **Product Names:**
- Chemical Class: Phosphanoglycine herbicide
- Uses: Non selective herbicide, or at low rates a plant growth regulator
- Alternatives: [Organic agriculture](#), [Organic land management](#)
- Beyond Pesticides rating: **Toxic**

Health and Environmental Effects

- Cancer: **Yes (6)**
- Endocrine Disruption: **Yes (7)**
- Reproductive Effects: **Yes (13, 8)**
- Neurotoxicity: Not documented
- Kidney/Liver Damage: **Yes (7)**
- Sensitizer/ Irritant: **Yes (8)**
- Birth/Developmental: Not documented
- Detected in Groundwater: Not documented
- Potential Leacher: Not documented
- Toxic to Birds: Not documented
- Toxic to Fish/Aquatic Organisms: **Yes (4)**
- Toxic to Bees: Not documented

Additional Information

- Regulatory Status:
 - [EPA Reregistration Eligibility Decision \(RED\) signed](#) (9/1993)
- Supporting information:
 - [Asthma, Children and Pesticides](#) (Beyond Pesticides)
 - [Children & Lawn Chemicals Don't Mix](#) (Beyond Pesticides)
 - [GMO Factsheet](#) (Beyond Pesticides)
 - [NCAP Glyphosate Factsheet](#) (Northwest Coalition for Alternatives to Pesticides)
 - [Extoxnet Glyphosate Factsheet](#) (Extension Toxicology Network)
 - [PAN Pesticides Database:Glyphosate](#) (Pesticide Action Network)
 - [Scorecard Glyphosate Factsheet](#) (Environmental Defense Fund)
 - [PAN UK Glyphosate Factsheet](#) (Pesticide Action Network UK)
 - [CHEJ Glyphosate Factsheet](#) (Children's Health Environmental Coalition)
 - [EPA Technical Factsheet](#)
- Studies:
 - [Glyphosate Formulations Induce Apoptosis and Necrosis in Human Umbilical, Embryonic, and Placental Cells](#). Benachour, et al. *Chem. Res. Toxicol.*, 2009, 22 (1), pp 97–105.
 - [Do Pesticides Affect Learning Behavior? The neuro-endocrine-immune connection](#). Porter, Warren. 2004. *Pesticides and You* (Beyond Pesticides)
 - [A Case–Control Study of Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma and Exposure to Pesticides](#) *Journal of the American Cancer Society*, 1999.
 - [Glyphosate formulations induce apoptosis and necrosis in human umbilical, embryonic, and placental cells](#). Benachour N, Séralini GE. *Chemical Research in Toxicology*. 2009 Jan;22(1):97-105
 - [Top 15 Farmworker Poison](#)

<http://www.beyondpesticides.org/gateway/?pesticideid=37>